

Application Serial No. 10/687,450
Reply to Office Action of May 2, 2006

PATENT
Docket: CU-3408

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REMARKS

In the Office Action, dated May 2, 2006, the Examiner states that Claims 1-16 are pending, and Claims 1-16 are rejected. By the present Amendment, Applicant amends the claims and the drawings.

In the Office Action, Claims 1, 2 and 9-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Friend et al. (US 6,429,601). Claims 3-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable of Friend et al. In view of Ogawa (US 2002/0056838). The Applicant considers that the amendment to independent Claim 1 overcomes these rejections.

Amended claim 1 is directed to an electroluminescent element comprising a substrate, an electrode formed on the substrate and an electric light emitting layer, wherein an area of a light emitting region of the same light emitting layer (i.e., the identical light emitting layer) changes depending on a voltage applied to the electric light emitting layer.

Friend et al., on the other hand, discloses an electroluminescent element comprising at least two electric light emitting layers in the same pixel region which are capable of being independently applied voltages, wherein the light emitting region in the same pixel region is changed by applying the voltage(s) to the selected electric light emitting layer(s) to emit light.

Accordingly, the present invention as claimed and in Friend et al. differ. They are different from each other in their methods of changing the area of the light emitting region and the electric light emitting layer comprising the electroluminescent element.


Claim 1 has been clarified to state that the area of the light emitting region of the same electric light emitting layer is changed in the electroluminescent element. This feature is not disclosed by either Friend et al. or Ogawa.

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In light of the foregoing response, all the outstanding objections and rejections are considered overcome. Applicant respectfully submits that this application should now be in condition for allowance and respectfully requests favorable consideration.

Respectfully submitted,



November 1, 2006

Date

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